



**For Immediate Release
September 7, 2006**

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**STATE AND PARTNERS CELEBRATE NEW RIVER DOCK WITH
RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY**

BOSTON—Today, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and The Esplanade Association (TEA) celebrated the public-private partnership responsible for the rehabilitation of the Esplanade River Dock with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and speaking program.

The dock, situated near the Arthur Fiedler statue across the footbridge from the Hatch Memorial Shell, was rebuilt at a cost of \$670,000. Through a partnership fostered by the EOEA Office of Public Private Partnerships, TEA contributed \$320,000 of the project's funds. The reconstruction followed the dock's original historical footprint and design.

"I'm very pleased with the results of this Fix-It-First Friends partnership," said EOEA Secretary Robert W. Golledge, Jr. "Together, the Commonwealth and The Esplanade Association have restored the dock's status as the Esplanade's most prominent gateway, joining its parklands and the Charles River."

"The rehabilitation of the river dock is a significant step in the improvement of the Charles River Esplanade," said DCR Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington. "For boaters, sunbathers, pedestrians, and event organizers, the new dock will be a great recreational resource for decades to come."

"The completion of the River Dock is an important milestone in the renaissance of the Esplanade," said TEA Executive Director Patrice Todisco. "We are honored to have been partners on the project."

Key new features of the dock include four electric hookups for special events, powered by an on-site generator, and low-output, solar-powered lights to silhouette the dock at night. The dock is also universally accessible, in compliance with ADA standards.

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